Title: Regarding decision to close down six Central Public Sector Undertakings under the disinvestment policy.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I have given notice of Adjournment Motion on the closure of six Central Public Sector Undertakings. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling one by one. But you are disturbing the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The way in which disinvestment is being done by the Central Government, they have decided to close down six Central PSUs, namely, Mining Allied Machinery Corporation, National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd., Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineering Ltd., Weighbird India Ltd., Rehabilitation Industries Corporation, and Footwear and Tannery Corporation Ltd.

An expert committee was appointed in the month of March 1999 to go into this question. That expert committee submitted its report in September 1999. But it has nowhere recommended the closure of any of these six PSUs. Rather, this expert committee recommended for exploring other options like joint venture, etc.

1239 hours (Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

Without exploring other options, without making any other exercise, without trying to revive all these important public sector undertakings which are located in the States of West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, the Government of India has decided to close them down.

Although the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Industry is also discussing the matter, such an abrupt decision was taken by the Government of India in the midst of the discussion. This will indeed have an adverse impact on the employment and economy of West Bengal and UP. There are thousands of workers who are employed in these undertakings. They will be thrown out of employment if these six public sector undertakings are closed down. How can the Government take a decision to close them down without exploring other options, as suggested by the Expert Committee? Then, what is the use of appointing an Expert Committee which has not recommended for the outright closure of any of these public sector undertakings? The MMTC is a very important and vital public sector undertaking in the State of West Bengal manufacturing underground mining machinery. If this industry is closed down, then we will have to import this machinery from multinational corporationsâ€¦...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal has given notice. Shri Acharia, please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Similarly, the Rehabilitation Industry Corporation (RIC) was set up for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons from the erstwhile East Pakistan. If this industry is closed down, then what will happen to these people? ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, I demand that the Government should review the decision which they have taken to close them down. I also demand a discussion on the way disinvestment is being done by this Government and the outright selling of vital public sector undertakings with no evaluation being done. ...(*Interruptions*) The new Minister has made a statement that White Paper on this will not be published. There will not be any White Paper on the disinvestment of public sector undertakings. ...(*Interruptions*) They are taking such decisions bypassing Parliament.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, this is a very serious matter. Lakhs and lakhs of people are losing their jobs and you are saying that he cannot raise it. ...(*Interruptions*) This is the most insensitive and anti-people Government allowing such a thing. Should we keep quiet without raising it?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Many hon. Members have given notice on this issue. Therefore, I am calling Shri Rupchand Pal. It is a very important issue.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Sir, bypassing this Parliament, the Government is taking disastrous decisions which will have far-reaching consequences for the Indian economy. In fact, family silver is being sold out on a platter without evaluation of the shares, without following any norms. They are hand-in-glove with some foreign companies and Indian companies. These *nava ratnas* and *mini ratnas* are not only diluted and weakened but they are being handed over and sold out. There is no consensus even within the Government about strategic and non-strategic industry. One Minister is saying that the oil sector is strategic and some other Minister is speaking in a different voice. Instead of taking the State monopoly to commanding heights of the economy, they are creating cartelisation as it is happening in the case of IPCL. Reliance is indeed going to buy out the prestigious IPCL. Even

when the report with regard to the telecom is yet to be submitted in October, the Prime Minister himself is announcing that by 15th August, the long distance telecom lines will be given to such and such private sector.

This Government has no uniform consensual approach towards disinvestment. The Disinvestment Commission has not been constituted. We demand a full discussion. We demand that this process should be stopped. They should not be sold out in such a manner. Parliament should be allowed to discuss this issue and give necessary directions with regard to the disinvestment methodology. Government should come out with a White Paper. We demand a White Paper with regard to the Disinvestment Policy. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Shekhar to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am on my legs. Please take your seat. I have given the floor to Shri Chandra Shekhar.

श्री चंद्रशेखर (बलिया, उ.प्र.) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, अभी जो स्वाल हमारे मित्र ने उठाया है, एक अहम स्वाल हो गया है। पिछले बजट में सरकार ने कहा कि जो सार्वजनिक विभाग के प्रतिष्ठान हैं, उनके शेयर्स को बेच कर 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये हम बजट के लिए लाएंगे। देश को यह नहीं मालूम कि किस आधार पर ये 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये निर्धारित किए गए। उस समय यह कहा गया कि जो घाटे की कम्पनियां हैं, उनके शेयर्स बेचे जाएंगे। आज से चार हफ्ते पहले डिसइन्वैस्टमैंट मिनिस्टर और योजना आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष ने यह कहा कि अगर केवल घाटे की कम्पनियां बेची जाएंगी तो 10 हजार करोड़ रुपया पूरा नहीं होगा। इसलिए मुनाफे वाली कम्पनियों को भी बेचना होगा। अब मैं यह नहीं समझता कि कोई भी सरकार इस तरह का नीति परिवर्तन अपने भाणों में किस तरह से कर सकती है। मैं कोई लम्बा भाण नहीं देना चाहता, केवल दो उदाहरण देना चाहूंगा। माडर्न बेकरी बेची गई जिसमें सरकार की ओर से 126 करोड़ रुपये में उस प्रतिष्ठान को बेच दिया गया जबकि उसकी कम्पनी के लोगों ने कहा कि इसकी कीमत 2000 करोड़ रुपये है। ...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जो हल्ला करेंगे, मैं उनको चांस नहीं दूंगा।

...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : रघुवंश जी, आप बैठिए।

श्री चंद्रशेखर : न वहां के अधिकारियों से बात हुई, न वहां के कर्मचारियों से कोई बात की गई। मुझे कहते हुए दुख होता है और लज्जा का अनुभव होता है कि सरकार की रिपोर्ट में लिखा गया है कि उस कम्पनी को बेचते समय वहां की भूमि की कीमत को नहीं देखा गया। उसके लिए जो बहाने दिए गए हैं, वे अत्यन्त हास्यास्पद हैं। एयर इंडिया को बेचने के लिए स्वाल उठा। अखबारों में कहा गया कि हमारे मित्र श्री शरद यादव, जो उस विभाग के मंत्री हैं, उन्होंने उसका विरोध किया। उनसे और डिसइन्वैस्टमैंट मिनिस्टर से समझौता हुआ कि 25 फीसदी शेयर बेचे जाएंगे लेकिन वहां जाकर उसको 26 फीसदी किया गया इसलिए कि किसी विदेशी कम्पनी को उसका प्रबंध दिया जा सके। हमारे विभाग के मंत्री जी विवश होकर चुपचाप वहां बैठे रहे।

अभी हमारे मित्र ने 6 और कम्पनियों की बात कही है। यह 10 हजार करोड़ रुपया किसने तय किया था और किस आधार पर तय किया गया? अब तक घाटे वाली कम्पनी बेचने का था, अब उन कम्पनियों को भी बेचा जा रहा है जो मुनाफा कमाती हैं।

मैं केवल एक और उदाहरण देता हूं। दुनिया में कोई ऐसा देश नहीं है जिसने अपने एयर कैरियर को बेचा हो। अकेला देश श्रीलंका है, उसने विशेष परिस्थितियों में बेचा था। हिन्दुस्तान पहला देश होगा जो यह कहेगा कि हमारे एयर इंडिया के लोग, जो तिरंगे को दुनिया के 36 देशों में ले जाते थे, उनके शेयर भी बेचे जा रहे हैं। इसी पर्लियामैंट में इससे पहले की सरकार ने कहा था कि प्राईवेटाईज़ेशन नहीं होगा। एक दूसरी एयरलाइन्स को हमने इजाजत नहीं दी थी और वही एयरलाइन्स एयर इंडिया को लेने की कोशिश कर रही है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह क्यों हो रहा है। मैं कोई आलोचना के लिए आलोचना नहीं करता हूं। दस्तावेज के बाद दस्तावेज साबित किए जा सकते हैं कि जहां देश के मौलिक स्वालों पर सरकार विदेशियों द्वारा निर्धारित मार्ग पर चलने के लिए अपने ...(व्यवधान) ये दस्तावेज यहां की सरकार द्वारा जानकारी में बनाए गए हैं।

मैं नहीं कहता कि केवल आपकी सरकार ने किया, इसके पहले की सरकारों ने भी इसमें अपनी भूमिका अदा की है। मैं बराबर यह स्वाल उठाता रहा हूं। आज स्थिति ऐसी पहुंच गई है कि एक दिन संसद का अधिवेशन नहीं होगा और संसद के सदस्य यह सोचेंगे कि भारत देश को किसी के हाथों गिरवी रख दिया गया है। संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी, आप नाराज मत होइएगा, आपके ऊपर यह कलंक का टीका लगने वाला है। हमारे मित्र मुरली मनोहर जोशी जी को हमने अभी सदन शुरू होने के पहले तुलसीदास की एक चौपाई लिखकर भेजी, जो उन्होंने कृण के बारे में लिखी थी:

"मोर मुकुट, कटि काछनी हो नाथ, तुलसी मस्तक तब नवे, जब धनुा बाण हो हाथ।"

पता नहीं, वह धनुा कब उठेगा या वह शिखंडी के जैसे क्लीव बनकर रह जायेगा। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश आज खतरे में है और इस खतरे से देश को बचाने की जरूरत है। â€¦(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your name is there, I will call you, Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay. Please do not waste the time of the House. You will get the chance.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please sit down. I am on my legs.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not know what is happening. I have given the floor to Shri Shivraj V. Patil. You will get the chance. I am on my legs.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is very difficult to control this House. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) â€¦ *

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are conducting the House in an orderly manner so that everybody would get the chance. If you stand up and insist, neither you will get a chance nor others will get the chance.

...(*Interruptions*)

डॉ. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह (वैशाली) : हमारा नोटिस किसी के नीचे है क्या ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका नम्बर आयेगा, आपका नोटिस मेरे पास है। आपको बुलाएंगे।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

डॉ. जसवन्त सिंह यादव (अलवर) : राजस्थान में हरिजन महिलाओं पर अत्याचार हो रहे हैं। राजस्थान में कांग्रेस की सरकार है।â€¦(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : राजो सिंह जी, आप तो सीनियर मैम्बर हैं। Nothing will go on record. I have given the floor to Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

(Interruptions) â€¦ *

श्री प्रभुनाथ सिंह (महाराजगंज, बिहार) : हमारा भी नोटिस है।â€¦(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप का नोटिस है, सब को बोलने का मौका मिलेगा। आप बैठिये न।

...(*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): I will not take much of the time of the House. ...(*Interruptions*) Only submission which I want to make is that this matter of disinvestment is very important. It should not only be discussed in this hour but a separate and comprehensive discussion should take place on disinvestment. There is no policy followed by the Government in this respect. What is being done is quite disturbing and it is going to affect the entire economy of the country and it is going to affect ultimately the sovereignty of the country. That is why we shall have to take a dispassionate view as to what should be done and in what manner it should be done and what should not be done. If the loss-making public sector undertakings cannot be disinvested and if the Government is trying to disinvest those public sector undertakings which are profit-making, we do not understand as to how the economy of our country is going to be managed. I would like to understand as to what is the difference between selling the gold outside the country because foreign exchange is not there and selling the public sector undertakings in the country because there is a deficit.

What is the difference between the two? We have not been able to manage our own economy and that is why we are taking these steps. We shall have to have a clear-cut policy with respect to this issue. If there is no policy and if the policy is changing every now and then, we are all disturbed, the entire House is disturbed and the people are disturbed. If we are disinvesting the public sector undertakings within a period of some months, which have taken 50 years to come up, and we take pride in disinvesting these public sector undertakings within weeks and months, the country would not understand as to why this is being done.

So, our submission is, let there be a full-fledged discussion and let there not be any limitation on the speeches and the views the Members would like to express. Let there be a policy formulated, not by the Government, but by the representatives of the people and let that policy be implemented. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are a few Members who have given notice to speak on this subject. I will call them and then call the Minister to respond.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

...(*Interruptions*)

डा. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह : डिसइंवैस्टमेंट को सारे देश की जनता देख रही हैâ€¦(व्यवधान)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when there is going to be a full discussion on this subject, what is the need of allowing more Members to speak now? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They have given notices and their names are listed here. I will give them a chance to speak.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, the senior leaders have already spoken on this subject. The other Members can simply associate themselves with the points made by them ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Unfortunately, the practice has been that all the Members are making a speech during the Zero Hour. I am trying to ask them only to associate themselves with the points made already made by others.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you have to only associate yourself with the points already made by other hon. Members.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, he will speak now and after that somebody else will speak. So, we will not get our chance. They can just associate themselves with the points already made by others. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, you are only wasting the time of the House. Please take your seat.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, how many more Members will speak on this subject?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, if you insist like this, we will close and we will adjourn for Lunch and none of you will get a chance. But I want to give you a chance.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am here to control the House. Why are you standing up when I am on my legs? I seek the cooperation of the Chief Whip.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If senior leaders stand up and interrupt like this when I am on my legs, it is not correct.

श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव : उपाध्यक्ष जी, गुस्सा मत कीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, you are a senior leader. You should know the elementary rules. I am on my legs. I am trying to control the House. But you are also standing up. It is very unfortunate.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you should only associate yourself with the points made by others. That is all. Then, I will ask the Minister to respond.

डा. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी ने सिखा दिया है। माडर्न फूड इंड्स्ट्री को बेचने वाले भी यही लोग हैंâ€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इन्होंने मंत्री जी पर आरोप लगाया है कि इन्होंने पैसा खाया है।â€¦(व्यवधान) What has he said just now? Can you allow such things to go on record? It is highly objectionable. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If he has said anything like that, I will expunge it.

13.00 hrs.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing objectionable will go on record. Even if it has gone on record, I will expunge it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, why are you permitting him to speak?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today, it is the first Zero Hour of this session. जैसा मैंने कहा कि आप एसोशिएट कीजिए नहीं तो I will call the Minister.

...(*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप एक ही सेंटेंस में अपनी बात कहिए।

...(व्यवधान)

डा. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमने भी सूचना दी है। मॉडर्न फूड को बेचने के संबंध में देश भर मे हल्ला है कि पांच हजार करोड़ रुपये की सम्पत्ति को 120 करोड़ रुपये में इन लोगों ने बेच लिया है ... (व्यवधान)... * और उस मंत्री का विभाग बदल दिया गया है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing objectionable will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) â€¦ **

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री तथा महासागर विकास मंत्री (डॉ.मुरली मनोहर जोशी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगा कि जो कुछ माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं, उसको रिकार्ड से निकाल दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All those objectionable things will be expunged.

डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी : बिल्कुल एक्सपंज करने की जरूरत है। गलत बात है। आज प्रात: काल भी माननीय स्पीकर महोदय ने उनकी बात को एक्सपंज किया था और फिर चंद्रेशेखर जी ने भी आपत्ति की थी। इसके बाद भी वह इस प्रकार की भाा का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं। कृपया करके उनको एक्सपंज किया जाये।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Even if it goes on record, I will expunge it.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Pramod Mahajan will speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

- Not recorded

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री प्रमोद महाजन) : उनको चुप होने दीजिए, उसके बाद आप खड़े होइए।

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, the Airports Authority of India has decided to lease out the Indian airports. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, I have given the floor to Shri Mahajan.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : Let it be on record. ...(*Interruptions*) I gave a notice. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is the second time that I have asked him to react.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, the Airports Authority of India has decided to lease out Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai Airports to private agencies. ...(*Interruptions*) All the employees have gone on strike. ...(*Interruptions*) Even as a Member of Parliament, I participated. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, what is this? I have given the floor to Shri Pramod Mahajan.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: At the outset, I would like to make it very clear and I have made it repeatedly clear. Not only that, on Thursday, the other House is discussing the Disinvestment Policy of the Government. So, the first thing is that the Government has no objection to discuss the Disinvestment Policy threadbare. It is for you to decide the time and the form of discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)

I am really surprised and pained to see that the political parties which have been parts of appointing the first Disinvestment Commission in this country are now challenging the very concept of Disinvestment Policy. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs says.

*(Interruptions) â€¦**

Secondly, another coalition which came into this country, after forming the Disinvestment Commission did not disband the disinvestment in the country...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give you the floor.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.05 p.m.

1306 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till five minutes

past Fourteen of the Clock.

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* Not recorded